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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/887,337	06/25/2001	In Duk Song	8733.425.00	5925

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EXAMINER

CHOWDHURY, TARIFUR RASHID

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2871

DATE MAILED: 01/22/2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/887,337

Applicant(s)

SONG, IN DUK

Examiner

Tarifur R Chowdhury

Art Unit

2871

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 25 June 2001.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-16 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-16 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on 25 June 2001 is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) 3.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

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DETAILED ACTION

Priority

1. Receipt is acknowledged of papers submitted under 35 U.S.C. 119(a)-(d), which papers have been placed of record in the file.

Specification

2. The title of the invention is not descriptive. A new title is required that is clearly indicative of the invention to which the claims are directed.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

3. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in-

(1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effect under this subsection of a national application published under section 122(b) only if the international application designating the United States was published under Article 21(2)(a) of such treaty in the English language; or
(2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that a patent shall not be deemed filed in the United States for the purposes of this subsection based on the filing of an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a).

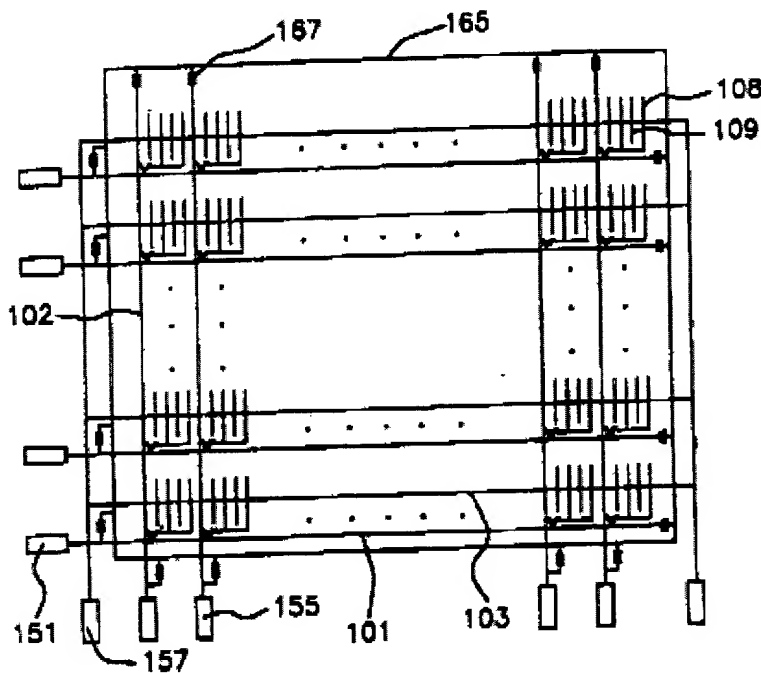
4. **Claims 1, 2 and 6-16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Komatsu, USPAT 6,335,770.**

5. Komatsu discloses in col. 5, lines 40-65 and shows in Fig. 5 (reproduced below), an in-plane switching type liquid crystal display device comprising:

- a plurality of data lines (102) for applying data signals to a thin film transistor array;

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- a plurality of gate lines (101) for applying gate signals to the thin film transistor array;
- a plurality of gate links extended from the plurality of gate lines (101) into an outer area of the thin film transistor array; and
- a plurality of common voltage lines connected to common voltage pads (157), being provided in such a manner to cross the plurality of gate links, for applying a common voltage to the thin film transistor array.

FIG.5

Komatsu also shows in Fig. 5 that the common voltage lines are parallel to the gate lines (101).

Accordingly, claims 1, 2 and 6 are anticipated.

As to claim 7, Komatsu shows in Fig. 5 that the in-plane switching liquid crystal display device further comprising:

- a plurality of gate pads (151) connected to the gate links and electrically disposed between the gate links and an external power source; and
- a plurality of common voltage pads (157) connected to the common voltage lines and electrically disposed between the common voltage lines and the external power source.

Accordingly, claim 7 is anticipated.

As to claims 8-11 and 14, Fig. 5 of Komatsu also shows that the gate pads (151), data pads (155) and the common voltage pads (157) are located in an area outside of the thin film transistor array.

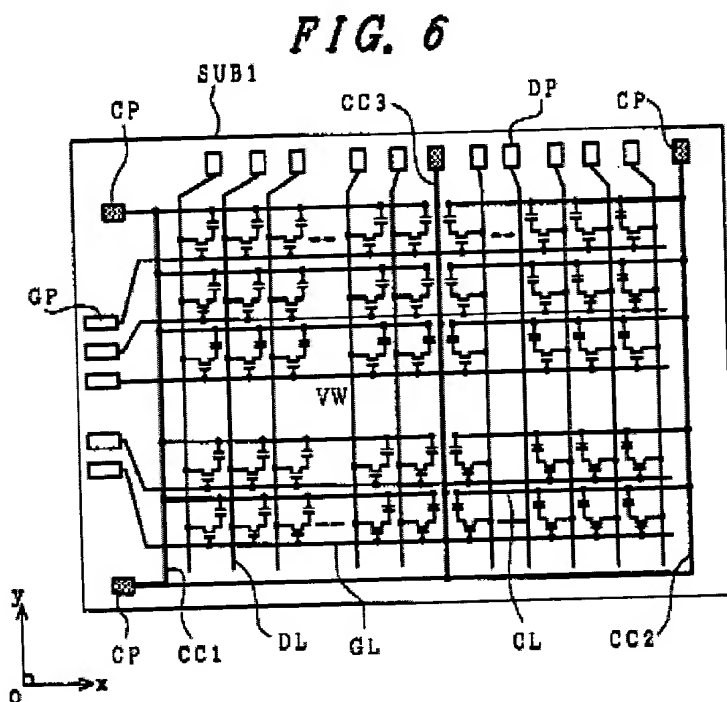
As to claims 12 and 13, Komatsu also shows in Fig. 5 that at least one common line that is parallel to the data line (102) crosses the gate lines (101) in an area between the gate pads (151) and the thin film transistor array.

As to claims 15 and 16, Komatsu shows in Fig. 5 that at least one common line crosses the data lines (102) in an area between the data pads (155) and the thin film transistor array.

6. Claims 1-16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Ashizawa et al., (Ashizawa), USPAT 6,456,350.

7. Ashizawa discloses in col. 9, lines 27-67 and shows in Fig. 6, an in-plane switching type liquid crystal display device comprising:

- a plurality of data lines (DL) for applying data signals to a thin film transistor array;
- a plurality of gate lines (GL) for applying gate signals to the thin film transistor array;
- a plurality of gate links extended from the plurality of gate lines (GL) into an outer area of the thin film transistor array; and
- a plurality of common voltage lines (CC1, CC2) connected to common voltage pads (CP), being provided in such a manner to cross the plurality of gate links, for applying a common voltage to the thin film transistor array.



Ashizawa also shows (Fig. 6) that plurality of gate pads (GP) that are located outside of the thin film transistor array are connected to the gate links and electrically disposed between the gate links and an external power source.

Ashizawa also shows (Fig. 6) that a plurality of data pads (DP) are connected to the data links.

Ashizawa further shows (Fig. 6) that a common voltage line is parallel to the data lines (DL) and a common voltage line is parallel to the gate line (GL).

Accordingly, claims 1, 2 and 6-16 are anticipated.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

8. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

9. **Claims 3-5 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ashizawa as applied to claims 1, 2 and 6-16 above.**

10. As to claims 3-5, standard driving common voltage for driving an LCD is approximately 5V and standard gate low voltage ranges from 0V to -5 V whereas standard gate high voltage is approximately 20V. Therefore, it would have obvious to apply standard voltages to the common voltage line or the gate signal line to avail a proven driving method of a liquid crystal display.

Double Patenting

11. A rejection based on double patenting of the "same invention" type finds its support in the language of 35 U.S.C. 101 which states that "whoever invents or discovers any new and useful process ... may obtain a patent therefore ..." (Emphasis added). Thus, the term "same invention," in this context, means an invention drawn to identical subject matter. See *Miller v. Eagle Mfg. Co.*, 151 U.S. 186 (1894); *In re Ockert*, 245 F.2d 467, 114 USPQ 330 (CCPA 1957); and *In re Vogel*, 422 F.2d 438, 164 USPQ 619 (CCPA 1970).

A statutory type (35 U.S.C. 101) double patenting rejection can be overcome by canceling or amending the conflicting claims so they are no longer coextensive in scope. The filing of a terminal disclaimer cannot overcome a double patenting rejection based upon 35 U.S.C. 101.

12. Claims 1-16 directed to the same invention as that of claim 6 of commonly assigned co-pending application 09/892,883. The issue of priority under 35 U.S.C. 102(g) and possibly 35 U.S.C. 102(f) of this single invention must be resolved.

Since the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office normally will not institute an interference between applications or a patent and an application of common ownership (see MPEP § 2302), the assignee is required to state which entity is the prior inventor of the conflicting subject matter. A terminal disclaimer has no effect in this situation since the basis for refusing more than one patent is priority of invention under 35 U.S.C. 102(f) or (g) and not an extension of monopoly.

Failure to comply with this requirement will result in a holding of abandonment of this application.

Conclusion

13. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

a) USPAT 5,995,186 discloses driving voltage for a liquid crystal display.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Tarifur R Chowdhury whose telephone number is (703) 308-4115. The examiner can normally be reached on M-Th (6:30-5:00) Friday Off.

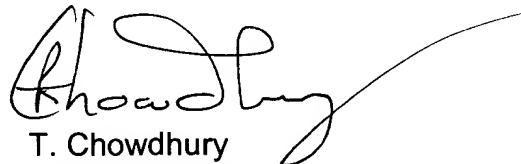
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If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, William L Sikes can be reached on (703) 305-4842. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are (703) 746-7005 for regular communications and (703) 308-7724 for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-1782.

TRC
January 15, 2003

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'T. Chowdhury', with a long, sweeping horizontal line extending to the right.

T. Chowdhury
Patent Examiner
Technology Center 2800